

SUGAR AND PLANTATION

SUGAR IMPORTS RAPIDLY INCREASE

National City Bank Circular
States United States Becoming
Distributing Nation

According to statistics just published by the National City Bank, the United States bought more than a billion dollars worth of merchandise from its tropical neighbors, including our own island possessions, in the fiscal year of 1916, of which sum thirty per cent was represented by sugar alone. The sources of supply for all commodities include South and Central America, the West Indian Islands, Mexico, the islands of the Pacific, the southern frontage of Asia and northern Mexico.

The value of the principal imports is as follows:

Sugar	\$309,000,000
Rubber	100,000,000
Raw silk	125,000,000
Coffee	115,000,000
Fibers	60,000,000
Fruits and nuts	40,000,000
Cotton	40,000,000
Cacao	35,000,000

The figures show that sugar is our most important article of tropical importation, its total value being almost double that of its nearest competitor. Sugar imports also show the largest increase in value on the list over earlier years, with an increase of twenty per cent over 1915 and fifty-seven per cent over 1912, the year of the high record previous to the war. The total value of sugar importations under these statistics was \$257,000,000 in 1915 and \$257,000,000 in 1912.

The figures for all tropical imports show a gain of 200 per cent over 1900, when the value was \$334,391,000. In 1915 the amount was \$805,646,000.

United States Distributing Center
A very large proportion of this increase, says the National City Bank bulletin, "is due to the activity of the manufacturing industries of the country, in part also to the heavy demands upon us from Europe for material of this class, a part to higher prices, and a portion to a disposition on the part of our neighbors to make the United States a point for the distribution of their products."

With the opening of the Panama Canal and the disarrangement of steamship lines upon the Atlantic and Mediterranean, much merchandise formerly sent direct to Europe is now passing by way of the United States, part of it for transshipment in the form in which received, other portions to be transformed into condition ready for use before being passed along to the consumers of other parts of the world.

A striking feature of the large importation of tropical merchandise is the fact that the countries from which it is drawn take in exchange but comparatively small quantities of merchandise from us. Last year they took but \$400,000,000 worth of merchandise in return for the billion dollars in products we imported. These figures carry a convincing argument for fostering the domestic sugar industry, because money spent for Hawaiian, Philippine, Porto Rican and Louisiana sugar, to say nothing of the beet sugar of the West, remains in American hands and goes into American circulation for labor, American machinery and American supplies, while its transportation furnishes business for American ships exclusively and American railroads.

LATEST ADVICES ON SUGAR ABROAD

Willett & Gray report Cuban exports for the week ending October 26 about the same as last week; 32,984 tons destined to the U. S., Atlantic ports, 3729 tons to New Orleans and 2933 tons to Europe; a total of 39,946 tons. Stocks in the island stand at 186,700 tons, against 213,281 tons at this time last year. The weather during the week has continued fine for the growing crop. Latest Cuba cable advices report that the week has been dry (except in Western Pinar del Rio) until Wednesday, when general rains fell.

United Kingdom
The Royal Commission has decided to prohibit the private importation of sugar under 49 degrees polarization, except for the use of brewers, and then only in consideration of the name of the buyers being furnished to the Royal Commission within 14 days from date of sale. The discount allowed purchasers of sugar has been reduced from two and a half per cent to one and three-quarter per cent.

Because of the high price of sugar and the high prevailing tariff the new discount rate will yield approximately the same as if the old duty of 1s 10d were in force, with the present in bond sugar values. The commission still considers the following retail prices of sugar admissible: Granulated, 5d to 5 1/2d per lb.; Cane, 5 1/4d to 6 1/4d per lb., according to circumstances of the locality as regards distance from the ports and cost of carriage.

CUBAN CROP ONLY SEVEN MONTHS ONE

Speculators Who Have Sold Short For December Delivery Are In Panic

Under date of October 27 the New York correspondent of one of the local sugar houses writes as follows concerning the sugar market.

"Strength in this market continues and rather increases than diminishes. Early this week the highest basis price obtained since the beginning of the war, 6.52 c.f., for prompt sugars, has again been reached, and for the past two days surpassed by a new high level of 6.65 c.f., at which price several lots have been purchased by refiners who have the market to themselves, as neither operators nor speculators have done anything on the street for some time."

"There is still available ex store or for prompt shipment about 50,000 bags of sugar for which holders are asking 5 1/2 cents c. & f., but refiners are for the moment holding back. Sellers realize the strength of their position and are not at all disposed to make any concessions."

Domestic Crop Late

"The delay in the harvesting of both the domestic beet crop and the Louisiana cane crop contributes not a little to the advancing tendency. It is believed that for the six weeks to come all the beet sugar production will be absorbed in the immediate territory of the factories, leaving all the Eastern market to the seaboard refiners. These refiners are all more or less behind on their deliveries from one to three weeks. The congestion on the railroads, especially in the South and West, is very serious and interferes greatly with the movement of freight to and from the seaboard."

"It is definitely known that British commission is offering 3.75 cents f.o.b. Cuba for 6000 tons March shipment, which is the equivalent of 5.12 to 5.42 cents, duty-paid, New York, according as the freight then ruling may run from 25 cents, as at present to 60 cents per 100 pounds, the probable rate as indicated by the freight carriers. If this commission should be willing to increase its offering a quarter of a cent it could doubtless secure quite a large lot of new crop Cuba at a minimum equivalent of 5.40 cents duty paid here."

Cuban Cane Blow
"Some 30,000 to 40,000 bags new crop Cuba have been sold for this market at 4 1/2 cents c. & f., January February delivery, which is better by 1.5 cents per pound than sales of sugar in the same position last year about this time."

"Rains still continue in Cuba and retard the ripening of the cane which has not had more than seven months' growth. This fact is the cause of no little concern to those who have sold in large quantities December options on the New York exchange in the expectation that good delivery Cubas would be plentiful about the fifteenth of that month."

CUBA CAN GROW TEN MILLION TONS OF SUGAR

With a tremendous acreage planted in cane Cuba is much behind the rest of the world in scientific agriculture, according to F. S. Earle. Although their average yields of cane are less than twenty tons per acre, "geographically there is a sufficient area of land in Cuba to produce readily ten or fifteen million long tons of sugar. Whether any such quantity ever will be produced there or not may be a matter of some doubt, but the possibilities of Cuba when intense cane culture shall become the rule rather than the exception are great."

"When the land shall be cleared up and freed of stumps and the modern machine culture can be readily adopted it will be found that our agricultural machinery inventors will advance themselves along the lines of cane cultivation as rapidly as circumstances will allow and that further than that, where any particular difficulty occurs in the utilization of machines, efforts will be made to so modify the nature of the cane fields as to permit the use of machines."

Practise is Poor
"This is the history of all progressive industries, the mechanism and the work approach each other and the splendid results that our engineers and mechanics and master builders have produced in the last half century are evidence of all this."

"In the matter of drainage and irrigation very much can yet be done by Cuba. There is scarcely a year but when some great rain storm with scalding hot weather prevailing, does some injury to the Cuban cane crops. On the other hand, some of the soils suffer more by drought than others and it is certainly very possible in Cuba to utilize irrigation when under modern conditions can be accomplished at a very low cost. The great cost is going to be in experimentation and in learning just how to do the work."

Waimea Is Grinding
Waimea Sugar Mill Company was the first plantation to start grinding its 1917 crop. The first carload of cane went through the mill rollers October 19th.

BONUS PERCENTAGE TABLE

Sugar Prices November 1, 1915—October 31, 1916

(Cents per Pound)

(Compiled by Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association)

DATE	Nov. 1	Nov. 15	Dec. 1	Dec. 15	Jan. 1	Jan. 15	Feb. 1	Feb. 15	Mar. 1	Mar. 15	Apr. 1	Apr. 15	May 1	May 15	June 1	June 15	July 1	July 15	Aug. 1	Aug. 15	Sept. 1	Sept. 15	Oct. 1	Oct. 15	Oct. 31
1	4.425	5.145	4.58	4.70	5.02	5.96	6.46	6.40	6.08	6.21	4.80	5.81													
2	4.425	5.115	4.58	4.70	5.24	5.96	6.335	6.183	6.08	6.21	4.80	5.99													
3	4.425	5.115	4.58	4.70	5.215	5.96	6.39	6.183	6.08	6.21	4.80	5.99													
4	4.425	5.115	4.45	4.45	4.445	5.215	5.83	6.46	6.175	6.08	5.75	4.80	6.02												
5	4.425	5.38	4.45	4.45	4.445	5.215	5.83	6.46	6.175	6.08	5.75	4.80	6.02												
6	4.425	5.38	4.47	4.47	4.445	5.215	5.83	6.46	6.175	6.08	5.75	4.80	6.02												
7	4.425	5.38	4.52	4.52	4.46	5.26	5.83	6.46	6.175	6.205	5.75	5.02	6.02												
8	4.425	5.38	4.49	4.49	4.70	5.26	5.83	6.46	6.21	6.205	5.75	5.02	6.02												
9	4.425	5.045	4.49	4.49	4.83	5.27	5.83	6.46	6.21	6.205	5.77	5.14	6.02												
10	4.425	4.80	4.49	4.49	4.83	5.27	5.83	6.46	6.21	6.205	5.77	5.14	6.02												
11	5.02	4.80	4.63	4.63	4.83	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.21	6.335	5.84	5.27	6.05												
12	5.02	4.80	4.52	4.52	4.83	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.21	6.335	5.84	5.27	6.05												
13	5.02	4.675	4.432	4.432	4.83	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.21	6.335	5.84	5.27	6.05												
14	5.02	4.675	4.605	4.605	4.83	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.21	6.335	5.84	5.27	6.05												
15	5.02	4.83	4.455	4.455	5.02	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.08	6.40	5.50	5.27	6.15												
16	5.02	4.83	4.455	4.455	5.02	5.46	5.96	6.46	6.08	6.40	5.50	5.27	6.15												
17	5.02	4.83	4.625	4.625	4.89	5.89	6.02	6.46	6.08	6.40	5.50	5.27	6.15												
18	4.83	4.89	4.64	4.64	5.05	5.86	5.985	6.02	6.08	6.15	5.50	5.52	6.27												
19	4.77	4.89	4.77	4.77	4.89	5.86	6.02	6.08	6.15	5.50	5.50	5.58	6.27												
20	4.77	4.89	4.747	4.747	4.89	5.74	6.15	6.00	6.08	6.15	5.50	5.58	6.27												
21	4.77	4.89	4.747	4.747	4.89	5.74	6.15	6.00	6.08	6.15	5.50	5.58	6.27												
22	4.77	4.89	4.705	4.705	4.89	5.71	6.02	6.02	6.175	6.15	5.50	6.02	6.52												
23	4.77	4.515	4.705	4.705	4.89	5.71	6.02	6.02	6.175	6.15	5.50	6.02	6.52												
24	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.89	5.71	6.02	6.02	6.175	6.14	5.50	6.02	6.52												
25	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.89	5.71	6.25	6.02	6.175	6.14	5.50	6.02	6.52												
26	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.77	4.89	5.71	6.21	6.02	6.14	5.50	5.83	6.65													
27	5.02	4.545	4.77	4.77	4.89	5.89	6.46	6.02	6.41	6.27	5.50	5.77	6.65												
28	5.02	4.58	4.705	4.705	4.92	5.805	6.46	6.02	6.33	6.15	5.28	5.77	6.65												
29	5.097	4.58	4.64	4.64	4.92	5.89	6.46	6.02	6.03	6.15	4.80	5.83	6.65												
30	5.145	4.58	4.64	4.64	4.92	5.89	6.46	6.02	6.03	6.15	4.84	5.83	6.65												
31	5.145	4.58	4.765	4.765	4.92	5.89	6.46	6.02	6.40	6.27	4.89	5.83	6.65												
Total	143,962	151,970	143,013	140,785	172,873	181,300	194,245	185,524	192,585	172,485	163,082	194,220													

Grand total of days—366; total of quotations—2,036,024; average price per lb.—5.5629c; per ton \$111.25.
Bonus for period from November 1, 1915, to March 31, 1916—41%.
Bonus for period from April 1, 1916, to October 31, 1916—61%.

OFFICIAL GERMAN SUGAR STATISTICS

According to Centralblatt für die Zuckerindustrie, "the estimates of the International Association for Sugar Statistics the area planted with beets in 1915-16 amounted to 370,480 hectares, against a final figure of 569,080 stated by the statistical department for the year 1914-15; 245 from the total number of 325 active sugar factories have worked up 7,627,676 tons of beets against 11,900,536 tons in the year before."

"This is thirty per cent more than in the year under consideration and if that same ration is extended over the eighty establishments which did not produce statistics, the total amount of beets, worked up in the whole realm is computed at 10,415,578 tons. If, on the other hand, the average quantity of 245 factories which gave statistics is taken as a basis for the whole number, the weight of beets worked up comes to 10,117,936 tons."

"The percentage of sugar extracted from 100 parts of beet, is calculated at 15.70, against 15.3 in the year before and taking that as a basis, the sugar production of Germany, calculated as raw, is put down, for the former number of tons of beets at 1,578,516 tons and for the latter at 1,632,245 or about 1,600,000 tons, the same figure as has been mentioned also in other estimates. This is sugar from the root alone, not including that obtained from extraction of molasses, since in the year under consideration no such sugar has been allowed to be manufactured. The whole molasses crop has been diverted to the manufacture of cattle food, with the exception of 300,000 tons, which were set aside for the manufacture of artificial fodder-yeast."

FIRST WINTER RAINS WITH HIGH WINDS

There have been general rains throughout the group during the past week, cold weather and high winds. The Hilo plantations have had over thirteen inches in ten days, which is more than was really needed.

Going up the Hanalei coast the rainfall was less and the wind more. There were three inches at Paia, two at Honouliuli and very little in Kohala, but the gale that has been blowing across the north end of the Island is reported the worst in many years. It was a straight tradewind blow.

Ditches are running full on Maui. Oahu has had showery weather and temperatures have been favorable. While windy, there has been no gale. Kauai reports abundant rains and full ditches. McBryde reservoirs are all full.

IRON WORKS WILL BUILD NEW MILLION DOLLAR MILL

Honolulu Iron Works Company has taken a contract to build an up-to-date sugar mill for one of the San Domingo plantations, to cost \$1,000,000. The order was secured by the New York office and the machinery will be built in Eastern foundries and machine shops.

BREWER PLANTATIONS

Waialua mill will commence grinding the 1917 crop about December 15. All the other Brewer plantations will begin work between January 1 and 15. There will be no intermission at Hutchinson, as they will be harvesting 1916 cane right into 1917. Hawaiian Agricultural will end its 1916 crop in another ten days.

SUGAR STOCKS LOW AND EXPORTS LARGE

Hence High Prices Will Continue To Rule For Many Months

Sales of raw sugar at New York during the week ending October 26 were 312,000 bags Cuba and Porto Rico at 10,400 tons Philippines and full duty sugars.

Willett & Gray report stocks in the United States and Cuba together of 262,728 tons, against 516,882 tons last week and 439,735 tons last year, a decrease of 177,007 tons from last year. In part they state that Philippine sugar, for November arrival, basis 88, were sold at 4.90c per lb.

Louisiana advices report that fully 25,000 tons of the American's recent purchases will go forward to New York. Eight steamers have been chartered, the first to load about November 7. The freight rate has not been disclosed, but it is understood to be 25c, or in that neighborhood.

Sugar Stocks Low
Atlantic Ports stocks continue to decline, and are now 69,925 tons, of which 17,053 tons are owned by importers. Last year the total stock at these ports was 211,439 tons.

On October 1 the Atlantic Ports stock was 149,354 tons. United States government official "in bond" figure for these ports was 130,278 tons. The balance between these two stocks includes sugars on which refiners have paid duty and also includes sugars on which no duty was collected, such as Philippine, Hawaiian, etc., the imports of which during the month of September totaled 48,500 tons.

The demand has been moderated for new business, but withdrawals are fairly good.

One 5000-ton lot has been placed for export to Norway at 1.35c basis. Exports quotations generally are now 6.45c to 6.50c, net cash in bond.

Total exports of refined sugars from January 1 to September 30 have been 557,620 tons.

TWO PLANTATIONS ARE WELL FIXED

According to the San Francisco Examiner of October 21 Honolulu Plantation Company has ordered an actual cash balance of over \$1,200,000.

Hutchinson Sugar Plantation Company on the same date had a cash balance of over \$100,000, as well as a sinking fund of \$100,000 invested in interest paying bonds.

A. & B. PLANTATIONS

Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company will commence work on the new crop on November 20, Maui Agricultural, Hawaiian Sugar, McBryde and Kahuku will grind their first cane about December 1.

Hackfeld Plantations

All the Hackfeld plantations will start grinding the 1917 crop the last of November or the first of December except Kakaia. Work there will be resumed about the beginning of the year.

LAHAINALUNA BOYS ARE CANE GROWERS

School Sets Good Example In Teaching Practical Agriculture To Its Students

Lahainaluna school's students in agriculture are growing thirty-four acres